PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE.

Sri B. D. JATTI (Minister for Finance).—I beg to lay the Statement of Supplementary Estimates for 1964-65 (III Instalment) as required under article 205 (1) of the Constitition of India.

Mr. SPEAKER.—The Statement of Supplementary Estimates for 1964-65 (III instalment) is laid.

RULING OF THE SPEAKER: *Re* the status of the Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. SPEAKER.—A point was raised as to how far the Deputy Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary can deal with the work and it was also adverted to in the course of supplementaries in an indirect fashion, asking whether a Parliamentary Secretary has a right to read the answer or not. I do not think it is necessary for anybody to say whether he has a right or not. The second point is how far it is legal to enable a Parliamentary Secretary to function in that manner I had said that I would look into the matter and let the House know it. Because I have promised, I am doing it now. It is not a request which can be thrust upon me and which I should answer. To be of some use to the members, I am trying to explain. After all as I speak there is a certain amount of hesitation because whatever is stated is not felt properly or some remarks are passed after that. I will leave it to the members to study this rather than ask me to state.

2-00 P.M.

Article 163 (Art. 74 in the case of Indian Union) of the Constitution provides that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions. Art. 164 (Art. 75 in the case of Indian Union) provides that the Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Minister shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister.

There is no reference to different categories of Ministers to be included in the Council of Ministers. In 1952, at the Centre there were Ministers, Ministers of Cabinet rank and Deputy Ministers. In 1957 the name "Minister of Cabinet rank" was dispensed with at the Centre and such Ministers were called Ministers of State.

In 1952 by the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act (Central Act LV III of 1952) the Deputy Ministers were given legislative recognition. According to S. 2 of the above Act a Minister has been defined as a member of the Council of Ministers by whatever name he is called and includes a Deputy Minister. There is no reference in this Act to the duties to be performed by the Deputy Ministers.